

8.—SNIPE AND DUCK SHOOTING IN SOUTH INDIA 1942-1943, 1943-1944 SEASONS.

I spent two winters in Southern India, one in the Salem District in the Madras Presidency, the other in the Gundlupet area of Mysore. I got off for occasional shoots, and I thought your readers might like to compare the bags of wild fowl.

			1942-43 Salem	1943-44 Gundlupet
Bar-headed Geese	...	...	2	2
Cotton Teal	...	...	...	54
Pintail	...	...	27	19
Gadwall	...	...	...	1
Wigeon	...	...	...	1
Shoveller	...	...	...	62
Spotbill	...	...	4	32
Common Teal	...	...	4	24
Garganey	...	...	19	222
Tufted Duck	...	...	3	...
Pochard	...	...	...	3
Red-crested Pochard	...	...	1	...
Woodcock	...	...	2	...
Pintail Snipe	...	...	22	17
Fantail Snipe	...	...	1	1
Painted Snipe	...	...	1	...
Total			86	438

The gadwall bagged near Nanjangud is apparently interesting, as Colonel Phythian-Adams tells me. He has only shot one in the last 18 years. I saw about six wigeon in the same area.

At Salem, shoveller are rare (I only saw four, in March), but up in Mysore they are abundant. Pintail are the most common duck down in Madras, but uncommon in Mysore. Common Teal were uncommon in Madras, but frequent in Mysore, the most I saw being on the Vadaganhalli tank near Bangalore (curiously enough, mostly males). Cotton Teal were rare in the plains—I only saw one—but they are numerous in Mysore.

Here in Burma, it may be interesting to note that snipe and even sandpipers are still about in considerable numbers.

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Major.

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9.—OBSERVATIONS ON THE EGG-LAYING HABITS OF THE LIZARD (*CALOTES OPHIOMACHUS*)

A slender green lizard, *Calotes ophiomachus*, was noticed for a few days sitting sluggishly on one of my garden plants. One day, looking out through the window, I saw it on the ground, just below, digging a pit with its feeble forelegs—using one leg a number of times, and then the other. The process was slow, and the amount of earth removed very small. Often it paused for a considerable time. Any disturbance or noise would cause it to stop work. The pit, about two inches in depth and one and a half inches